

## M E R C A T O R:

O R,

## Commerce Retrieved,

B E I N G

CONSIDERATIONS on the State of the *British* Trade, &c.

From Thursday, October 15. to Saturday, October 17. 1713.

**H**AVING by just Discount from the Cheats of those, who would, fain represent the French Trade as Formidable and Frightful as they can, brought down the ordinary Import of French Goods to about Eight hundred thousand Pounds a Year;

The *MERCATOR* shall next give, as short as may be, a View of the Exports of the Year 1685-6, with such Valuations, as he thinks the Articles will bear, giving up many Things to avoid giving Occasions for Cavils; and then proceed to such more useful Observations of the Trade as lie before him. What has been offer'd against his Observations about the extravagant Sums said to be Imported from France, has been so empty, so frivolous, and so little to the Purpose, that it is worth no Notice; as, that the late *Guardian* did not say Seven hundred thousand Pound in Linen, but Six hundred thousand; which is true, because he said Six or Seven; that he did not say Four thousand Ton of Brandy, but Three thousand, whereas he said, Brandy to the Value of Seventy thousand Pound, and the *MERCATOR* said, the Quantity uncertain, but the Value Seventy thousand Pound, which it is well known would have purchased in France at that time Eight thousand Ton: So that the more they stir these Things, the worse——

These things are, as is said, so Foolish, they deserve no Notice. We proceed to an Account of Goods Exported, as above.

In this Account, it is to be noted, we take the Quantity for granted, as publish'd in their Scheme, whether it be true or not; being willing to confute their Allegations upon the foot of their own suggested Quantities.



# An ACCOUNT of Goods Exported from England to France, from Michaelmas 1685, to Michaelmas 1686.

Quantity	Species	Price	Total Value. L.	
422 Ps	Long Cloths	10 l. per ps	4220	
164 ps	Short Cloths	8	1312	
4190	Spanish Cloths	18	75420	Spanish fine Cloths are usu- ally worth more
4921 ps	Northern Kerfies	1 15	8625 15 s.	
211 ps	Cloth Rashes	6	1266	
7672 ps	Serges and Perpets	2 10	19180	This was the Price allowed by the old Scheme
7972 ps	Ditto being 79723 l. wt. a 10 l. to a ps	2 10	19930	
101946 yds	Ditto Serges	3 s. per yd	15291	} This is left to Judgment of the Exet. & Taunton Serge-mak.
40800 l. wt.	Stuffs	3 s. per l.	6120	
1123 ps	Stuffs and Says	2 l. per ps	2246	
3450 l. wt.	Woollen Cloth	5 s. per l.	862 10	
152 ps	Yorksh. Cloth call'd Doz.	6 l. per ps	912	} These are often worth 7 to 8 Pound
1289 ps	Ditto single	3	3867	
2082 ps	Single Bays	2 10	5205	} The sorts of these are taken in just proportion, being left otherwise in their Scheme
1601 ps	Double	4 l.	6404	
98 ps	Minikin	6	588	
43 ps	Pennillones	3	129	
21847 yds	Frize	3s 6d per yd	4923 4 6	
214240 gds	Goats Cotton	10 l. per C.	21424	} Their own Price but too low
29307 yds	Flannel	1 s. per yd	1465 7	
2737 ps	Dorset Dozens	1 l. 8 s per ps	3845 16	} Their own Rate but worth at least 14 s
439 l. wt.	Camblet	10 s. per l.	219 10	
141	Garments	1 l. 10 s. each	211 10	
	Wadmole, Fustians, Waistcoats, Hose, Caps, Hats, Buttons, and Coverlids together		9700	Their own Rates, tho much too low
7232 l.	Wrought Silk and Stuffs mixt with Silk	2 l. per l.	14464	} The Stuffs if lower, they ought to have separated them
2481 C. $\frac{1}{4}$	Tann'd Leather	3 l. per C.	8376	
7132 C. $\frac{1}{2}$	Tann'd Calf-skins	5 l. 12 s.	39940 19	} These are taken from the gross Quantity of Tann'd Leather Exported, whereof three Fourths are general- ly Calf-Skins
619 l.	Wrought Leather	3 s. per l.	92 17	
113 doz.	Plain Leather Gloves	12 s. per doz.	67 16	
1075 doz.	Old-shoes	2 s. per doz.	107 10	
3	Saddles	1 l.	3	
1	Coach Harness	5 l.	5	
6 pair	Buck-Leather Gloves	2 s.	12	
13767 Ells	Linnen	1 8 d	1147 5	
592 Gro.	Tobacco-pipes	1	29 12	
3 pair	Virginals	5 l.	15	
12 doz.	Bellows	14 s. per doz.	14 8	
490 $\frac{1}{2}$	Books and Maps printed	5 l. 15 s.	247 10	
10:2:7	Haberdashery Ware	30 per C.	316	
4958 $\frac{1}{2}$ fir.	Butter	1 per Fir.	4958 10	} These are reducing Barrels of Butter into 2 Firkins each
1063 $\frac{1}{2}$ C.	Glue	1 10 s. per C.	1535 5	
2002 C.	Gunpowder	2 15 s.	5505 10	} All at their own Rates
18 $\frac{1}{2}$ C.	Starch	1 l.	18 10	
2947 C.	Allom	1 4 s.	3636	
3 $\frac{1}{8}$ C.	Beef	1 10 s. p. Bar.	4 13	
36:2 T.	Beer	4 l. per Ton	146	
26:1 C.	Cheese	1 7 s.	39 7 6	
800	Hoops		2	
3	Pictures		18	
10369 qr.	Wheat	1 l 15 s. pr qr.	18195 15	} It is not likely the Corn should be at a cheaper Rate, especially when there was a Demand for it in France
1431	Rye	18 s.	1287 18	
312	Oats	10	156	
48	Oatmeal	3 per Bushel	7 4	
12898 Bar.	Herrings	17 per Bar.	10963 6	
Total 325869 l.				





Quantity	Species	Price	Total Value	
49 Bar.	Salmon	4 l. per Bar.	196	
177 C.	Bees-wax	6 15 s. per C.	1194	
1134 Chal	Coals	1 l. per Chal.	1134	
1900 l.	Coney-wooll	8 s.	760	
3009 C.	Tin	3 l. 15 s.	9779	
86 C. 1	Pewter	1 s. 4d. per l.	644	
qr. 5 l.				
2923 Fod.	Lead	12 l. per Fod.	35126	9 2
1258 C.	Lead-shot	15 s. per C.	943	10
98 C.	Wrought Brass & Copper	10 l.	980	
44 C. 3qr	Iron Ordnance	12 s.	26	17
qr.				
4 C. 1	Iron wrt. & Clock-work	6 l. per C.	25	10
qr.				
336900	Lanthorn-leaves	10 s. per M.	1681	
750	Rams Horns	}	5	
100	Stags Horns			
47400	Oxe Bones		16	11 8
214 1/2 qr.	Linfeeds	2 l. per qr.	419	
2 C.	Sugar refined	3 per C.	6	
30 lb.	Sealing-wax	5 s. per l.	7	10
76	Horses	15 l.	1140	
	Unrated Goods		7787	7
250 qr.	Malt	17 s. per qr.	162	10
368	Barley	16	294	8
102	Pease	1 l. 6 s.	132	6
40 C.	Copperas	5 s.	10	
15280	Bread	9 s. 4 d.	63	15 4
4 doz.	Candles	4 s. 6 d.		18
102 C.	Clapholt	15	7	17 6
90000	Deals	4 l. per C.	3600	
22 C.	Flax undrest	2 l. 5 s.	49	10
2 qr.				
100 Caf.	Window-glass	1 l. 10 s.	150	
15750	Glass-bottles	2 d per piece	101	5
195 C.	Figs	16 s. per C.	156	
3 Cal.	Grindstones delivered	1 l. 10 s.	1	10
5160	Staves Hogsheds	}	87	12 8
	Ditto Pipe			
308 Ton	Pilchards		3696	
187206	Hillingstones delivered	15 s. per M.		
		with the Freight	215	8 6
25 C.	Old Iron	10 s. per C.	12	10
483 C.	Nails	1 l. 15 s.	846	2 6
2 qr.				
6 C.	Steel	1 10 s.	9	
15:1 C.	Hops	2 10 s. per C.	38	2 6
40:2 T.	Linseed Oil	28 l. per Ton	1122	2 8
683	Raw Hides	7 s. per ps	239	1
5	Beaver	3		15
4	Wooll Cards	10 per doz.	2	
Foreign Goods.				
23694 l.	Pot-ashes	1 l. 8 s.	317	6 6
19 C.	Almonds	5	96	5
1 qr.				
42 l.	Amber-beads	1 8 s.	58	16
183 T. 16 C.	Braziletto Wood	12 lb. per Ton	2206	12
360 C.	Barrilla	1 l. 5 s.	450	
1135 C.	Bees-wax	4 10 s.	5107	10
541 C.	Brimstone	1 5 s.	676	5
1 ps	Checks		2	
290 Ells	Canvas	1 s. 2d pr Ell	16	18 4

One Chaldron Newcastle-Measure, makes 2 Chald.

Tho' this Clockwork were to be all Iron, which it is absurd to suppose, yet 40 s. per C. as they Rate it is ridiculous, and it may be much more likely to be Brass than Iron

No Horses sent to France but fine Saddle-Horses, which are often at 40 & 50 l. a Horse

If Biscuit was wanted abroad, it could not be cheaper than 1d. per lb.

They were not sold cheaper at that time.

They are sold with the Freight

Total 81701 13 4



Quantity	Species	Price	Total Value	
562 C.	Currants	1 l. 10 s. p. C.	848	5
122 Gal.	Canary	5 s. per Gal.	30	10
9685	Cow Hides	7 per ps	3389	15
4200 l.	Cinamon	5 s. per l.	1050	
8810 l.	Cochineal	1 l.	8810	
900 yds	Diaper	10 d. per yd	37	10
204 C.	Elephants Teeth	12 l. per C.	2448	
48 C.	Figs	16 s.	38	16
50 lb.	Guinea Grain	8 d. per l.	1	13 4
4400 Ells	German Linen Broad } and Narrow }		238	6 8
11 doz.	Gloves	12 s. per doz.	6	12
22 C.	Hemp	1 l. per C.	22	
	Horn Plates			
	Hose			
	Honey	Together.	652	16 6
	Hops			
2610 l.	Indico rich	6 s. per l.	783	
1 Ton	Iron		12	
	Inkle wrought			
	Lockrams	Together.	1260	16 8
	Lemons			
	Linseed			
4 ps	Lawns Silesia	7 s. per ps	1	8
179 Ells	Linnen	1 s. 8 d.	14	18 4
4614 T.	Oil ordinary	30 l. per Ton	13852	10
	Ozenbrigs			
	Pitch			
	Prunelloes	Together.	1088	00 5
	Raisins Solis			
	Ditto Malaga			
	Soap hard			
181 l.	Italian wrought Silk	2 l. per l.	362	
	Silk wrought with Gold and Silver			
	Silk Stockings stich'd with Gold	Together	124	18 6
	Safflower			
	Shomach			
211 Bar	Salmon	4 l. per Bar.	848	
	Steel			
	Skins Beaver			
	Ditto Coney	Together.	989	4 10
	Ditto Otter			
	Tallow Irish			
	Tortoise Shell			
	Twine	Together	8373	15
	Spanish Wooll			
218 qr.	Wheat Foreign	1 l. 10 s.	327	
Plantation Goods.				
18 C. 1	Ginger	1 l. per C.	18	5
700 lb.	Indico Plant.	3 s. 6 d per l.	122	10
6091 C. 1/2	Sugar	1 l. 8 s. per C.	8528	2
114 1/2	Ditto white	2 l. 10 s.	343	5
131783 lb.	Tobacco	4 d 1/2 per l.	2470	18 7 1/2
Turkey Goods.				
24 C.	Anniseed	2 l. 5 s. p. C.	54	
27 C. 1	Coffee	12 l.	327	
12517 l.	Cotton	7 d. per l.	365	1 7
113401 l.	Cotton-Yarn	1 s. 2 d.	6615	00 2
12	Carpets	2 l. each	24	
360 C.	Fustick	10 s. per C.	180	
Tot.			64659	18 7 1/2

Their own Rates

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Their own Rates

A very reasonable Rate









# To the MERCATOR.

SIR,

**Y**OU may not wonder at the Treatment you meet with from the Writers, who Oppose you, when were you to Converse with them in their private Meetings, nay and publick also; the Names of Rogue and Villain, Fool and Rascal, are the best Language they use to Ministers of State, to the best Men of the Nation; nay, I speak it with Horror, they are not asham'd to treat the Queen her self in the same manner. All the Answers you will have to all you Write, are to be thus managed: It is agreed among them, that it shall be so; and they have hired a Writer on purpose, who is qualified with Spleen against the Government, having twice fled from Parliamentary Justice, and who is especially noted for his foul Tongue, so that he might make up the grossest Ignorance with ill Language. Your Readers therefore, who are generally the most Impartial and Unprejudiced, and by Consequence the best of Men, are extreemly pleased with your Moderation, in that you proceed quietly, with sound Arguments, to expose their Frauds and Cheats; and are not provok'd, by their Taunting and Unmannerly Words, to take any Notice of them.

Is any thing more absurd and ridiculous, than their Boasts of making good what they pretended about your Falsifying the *Portugal* Treaty, and their Bullying us with the King of *Portugal*'s breaking the Peace with us for it? Railing and Abusing the *MERCATOR*, and then call it proving what they had said? Then again of Prohibiting all our Manufactures in *Portugal*; Have they told you yet what Manufactures the *Portuguese* did Prohibit besides our Woollen Cloths? Believe me, Good Sir, they are not worth your Notice; they impose horrid Cheats on the Nation, and prove them by calling Rogue and Rascal. Are such Men to be taken Notice of? The more they are in a Rage, the more Force it gives to what you Write.

Was ever a more ridiculous Answer given to any thing in the World, than to what your *Mercator* had charged very justly upon them! for rating Wrought Brass at 8 l. per Cent. and Clock-work at 40 s.

1. That this may be Iron Clock-work! What ridiculous Mocking the World is this! May it not be Brass too?

2. That it is rated at the Custom-house at 40 s.

Could he have prov'd it to be Iron Clock-work, he ought to have called it so in his Account; but we all know fine Clocks are sent to France, and were enter'd at the Custom-house, paying as Wrought Iron does, after the Rate of 40 s. per C. Weight, but are nevertheless worth 20 l. a C. and often more. But such is the Rage of these Men, they will not see, and would have others blind: You will find most of their Valuations are taken from nothing but the Book of Rates, which every Merchant knows is no Rule to judge the real Value by. So you will find they have Rated Haberdashery Wares at 10 l. per Hundred Weight, because they pay upon such a Value at the Custom-house; whereas it is well known, that Haberdashers Goods, take them one with another, are more likely to be worth from 50 l. to 100 l. per Hundred Weight than 10 l.

Having therefore such an Enemy to deal with, your way is clear. Never fight with Chimney-sweepers and Dunghill-rakers, but leaving them to throw Dirt, none of which will stick upon you, go on to state our Trade as it really is and would be, that if this Age should be so mad as to throw away the Advantage of their Commerce, the next Age may see who did it. In the mean time, it is plain to all good Men, that the French Trade is to our Advantage; and the Opposition it meets with from these Men is a horrid Plot of a Party, a downright Conspiracy to carry on their Party-Wickedness, and our Trade is to be Sacrificed to bring it to pass, as Time will more plainly discover.

Your Friend and Servant,



English Merchant.